

- 291 Children wear no clothes at all until they are 6 or 8.
- 301 The hair is worn loose, long, and flowing by the women but is clipped
302 above the ears by the men. Both sexes wear necklaces and wristbands of
glass and porcelain beads, coins, seeds, and beetle wings. Only women
wear earrings.
- 302 The traditional *Chibcha* custom of frequently painting body and face is
found among the *Cayapa*. Red, yellow, and black are used, and the de-
signs are very numerous. Barrett reproduces many of the motifs and
insists that there is no special significance attached to any of them, nor is
there any age, sex, or property correlation.

TRANSPORTATION

- 501 **Watercraft.**—A large part of every *Cayapa's* life is spent on the water
fishing and traveling. Canoes are built with great skill and care. They
[439] can withstand not only fluvial but also maritime travel and are routinely
sold in the "civilized" coast towns. They are dugouts, usually 10 to 12
yards long but sometimes much larger. Balsa-wood logs are sometimes
used as outriggers.

MANUFACTURES

- 000 Details of *Cayapa* manufactures are contained in Barrett's work, which
describes and illustrates finished products and minutely discusses the tech-
niques of preparation.
- 322 **Woodworking.**—Woodworking includes house building, making dead-
fall traps, and carving seats and children's dolls.
- 285 **Weaving and basketry.**—The women weave cotton cloth on a narrow
286 native loom, and the men do the sewing. The men also weave the fishing
442 nets and hammocks. Barrett's discussion of *Cayapa* basketry is outstand-
ing. The *Cayapa* make many kinds of baskets, mats, and fans of bark and
of various roots.
- 323 **Pottery.**—Pottery is crude and undecorated. It is used particularly for
177 storage. Tradition claims that in their old Highland habitat the *Cayapa*
made better pottery but that calabashes have since largely replaced cera-
mics.
- 324 **Stonework and metalwork.**—Stonework is limited to the metates
used in grinding corn and plantains. Although in aboriginal times Low-
land Ecuador was a famous area of metallurgy, there is no evidence that
the contemporary *Cayapa* practiced it.
- 411 **Weapons.**—The weapon most widely used today is the muzzle-loading
177 shotgun. The blowgun was important in the past, but today its use is
restricted to boys, who shoot poison darts while playing at hunting. Hard-
wood lances are being given up, and the bow and arrow is said not to be
mentioned in *Cayapa* tradition. The steel machete is ubiquitous.

135 in considerable deposits along this portion of the coast of Ecuador. In fact this region, like a large part of the western coast of South America, is rich in precious metals, those present in this particular locality being chiefly gold and platinum, although silver and copper are also found. It is an interesting fact that platinum first became known to the civilized world through its introduction from the Province of Esmeraldas; it had, however, been discovered and employed to a considerable extent in the making of ornaments by the aboriginal inhabitants of the region about the mouth of the Rio Santiago before its introduction into the modern arts, in fact long before the coming of Columbus. The high development reached in the art of metal-working by the ancient inhabitants of this section is shown particularly by the elaborate and delicately wrought ornaments of gold and platinum, and occasionally also of silver and copper, found so abundantly at La Tolita near the mouth of the Rio Santiago and at certain other points in that vicinity.

325 The Cayapa Indians of the present day are quite differently disposed toward metal-working, for they have no knowledge of the art, now using no metal objects other than those obtained by trade, such as axes, adzes, and machetes. [439] They assert that they never [173] came into contact with the ancient metal-workers of this region, for the reason that they were long ago driven out or exterminated by another tribe which the Cayapa in turn banished in comparatively recent times. Not 316 only do the Cayapa do no metal-work themselves, but

OF ECUADOR

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At the present time the hook-and-line is very much ²²⁷ used in fishing, though this was introduced by the ^[77] whites. Strong, slender, fish-poles, called *wañgū-tca'lli*, seven to ten feet in length, are made from the upper branches of the large bamboo. They are gathered when thoroughly matured but while still green, and are hardened and straightened by heating. The lines, called *wañgū-tcū'a*, or *sañ-dō'a*, are made of native pita string and are usually quite fine. The strength of the pita fibers makes it possible to use a very fine line for comparatively large fish. Such a fish-line, provided with a special pottery sinker and an ordinary steel fish-hook, is shown in fig. 9; it is wound in this case on a cylindrical piece of balsa. This line is called *tcūndyē'pū* and is used in the hand after the fashion



FIG. 9.—Fish-line with pottery sinker

of a troll. In case it should be dropped or pulled overboard, it is saved by means of the balsa float. Ordinarily all lines are provided with lead sinkers, but the pottery cylinder, especially made as a sinker is an old type and was formerly very much used. Hooks, called *weñgō'la*, are now obtained from traders at the coast, although it is

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said that when this method of fishing was first introduced through contact with the early Spaniards, crude hooks were fashioned by hammering out pieces of iron.

226 At the present time this method of hook-and-line fishing is so much in vogue that almost every man has his special little canoe and a special short paddle which are used almost exclusively for fishing. It is customary to paddle for some distance against the tide or current and then to fish back down with the current along the bank. In this way little effort is required in paddling, and a sculling motion of the paddle with the left hand is sufficient to keep the canoe in its desired course. With [227] a pole and line go a small, hemispherical, calabash dish of angle-worms, a small bottle-shape basket (pl. XCIII, 3) of grasshoppers, or a calabash of a certain small reddish fruit, all of which are used as bait, each according to the kind of fish sought.

On rare occasions the trot-line, called weñgūtċū'a (?), such as that shown in pl. CXIX, 1, is used. The main line, called señgi'ri, is made usually of the coarser string fiber called by the Spanish term *cosadera*, while the small "leaders," called simply sañdō'a, to which each separate hook is attached, are made of pita string.

WAR

721 The Cayapa maintain that in ancient times they rarely went to war, and then only on the greatest provocation, as, for instance, when they were harrassed by the former inhabitants of their present domain until forbearance was no longer possible and they descended from their

and walls. Building materials consist entirely of wood and leaves gathered from the adjacent forest. This type of pile dwelling is one of the diagnostic traits of the Pacific lowland culture area; its distribution extends from western Darien southward to the Santiago River system in Esmeraldas, where it has been introduced by Colombian immigrants. Like most of the present material traits of the lowland Negroid people, their houses appear to be a modified form of an Indian prototype (West 1957:114).

Such structures are a major feature of the cultural landscape of the Cayapas River system as well, but the Indian houses are in marked contrast to the Negro domiciles. The Cayapa houses are nearly always rectangular in ground plan and always larger. Cayapa houses range from approximately ninety feet in length by forty feet in width to perhaps somewhat more than half this size. The piles which are adzed into a square shape are always made of Guayacán, a heavy, black hardwood that is said to resist the incursions of termites for about twenty years. Eight to ten of these posts are placed on the posts six to ten feet above the ground. Bamboo stringers are laid through notches but in the Guayacán posts, and they serve as a foundation for the plankwood flooring that is laid down at right angles to the bamboo stringers. Sometimes a split level construction

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